

Message Text

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17/21

ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6271
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USCINCEUR
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1180

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADDING INFO ADDEE MOSCOW)

(MOSCOW TAKE FOR FIRST TIME)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF

SUBJ: CPSU CONGRESS AND ECPC PREPARATIONS: ITALIAN REPORT

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REF: (A) MOSCOW 3156 (DTG 011858Z MAR 76), (B) MOSCOW 3083
(DTG 281705Z FEB 76), (C) MOSCOW 2645 (DTG 201501Z FEB 76)
(NOTAL), (D) BELGRADE 1000 (EXDIS) (DTG 121515Z FEB 76)
(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: ITALIAN REP AT MARCH 2 POLADS MEETING REPORTED ON BREZHNEV'S MEETING WITH BERLINGUER ON FRINGES OF CPSU CONGRESS. PCI IS REPORTEDLY PLEASED WITH DEVELOPMENTS AT 25TH CONGRESS AND DURING RECENT ECPC PREPARATIONS. ITALIANS SAY YUGOSLAVS ALSO ENCOURAGED, BUT ARE CRITICAL OF FRENCH CP FOR PUBLICLY ABANDONING DICTATORSHIP OF PRLETARIAT. END SUMMARY:

1. AT MARCH 2 NATO POLADS, ITALIAN REP (JANNUZZI) REPORTED THAT, AT THEIR MOSCOW MEETING DURING 25TH CPSU CONGRESS, BREZHNEV AND BERLINGUER EACH OUTLINED THEIR RESPECTIVE VIEWS ON RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CPSU AND NON-RULING CPS, WITH BERLINGUER ATTEMPTING TO PURSUADE SOVIET LEADER THAT TIME HAD COME FOR THE KREMLIN TO MODIFY ITS POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. ITALIAN REP SAID, ACCORDING TO A PCI SOURCE BREZHNEV, IN TURN, MADE NO REFERENCE TO THE CPSU'S LEADING ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT AND HAD INDEED PAID "LIP SERVICE" TO THE PRINCIPLE OF AUTONOMOUS PATHS TO SOCIALISM.

2. TURNING TO PREPARATIONS FOR ECPC, JANNUZZUI COVERED MUCH OF THE SAME GROUND AS REPORTED IN REF C, ADDING THAT A KEY REASON FOR THE NEW SOVIET FLEXIBILITY APPEARS TO BE TACIT AGREEMENT ON MOSCOW'S PART THAT THE ECPC FINAL DOCUMENT SHOULD HAVE A POLITICAL, RATHER THAN IDEOLOGICAL, CHARACTER. THE DRAFT DOCUMENT, ACCORDING TO PCI SOURCES, REAFFIRMS THE CONCEPT OF DIFFERENT NATIONAL PATHS TO SOCIALISM AND "IMPLICITLY REJECTS" THE IDEA OF A LEADING PARTY.

3. JANNUZZI NOTED THAT THE PCI APPEARS PLEASED WITH THE CURRENT SUCCESS OF THE "AUTONOMOUS" CPS. HE ATTRIBUTED THE APPARENT HARDENING OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON ECPC PREPARATIONS LAST NOVEMBER TO CONFIDENTIAL

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TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS; NOW THAT THE APPARENT SOVIET DEADLINE FOR HOLDING ECPC PRIOR TO THE 25TH CONGRESS HAS PASSED, THE SOVIETS HAVE ADOPTED A MORE FLEXIBLE SET OF TACTICS. JANNUZZI WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN IF SOVIETS SHIFT THEIR TACTICS ON RELATIONS WITH OTHER CPS, MOSCOW'S UNDERLYING OBJECTIVES REMAIN THE SAME.

4. YUGOSLAV REACTION TO RECENT INTRA-COMMUNIST DEVELOPMENTS HAS ALSO BEEN FAVORABLE, ACCORDING TO JANNUZZI, WHO CITED REPORT FROM ITALIAN EMBOFF IN BELGRADE WHOM JANNUZZI IDENTIFIED AS "A SOCIALIST AND WHO IS THEREFORE WELL-VERSED IN MARXIST IDEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS." REPORT SAYS BELGRADE DOES NOT

AGREE WITH ALL POSITIONS WESTERN CPS HAVE TAKEN
RECENTLY. BELGRADE, OF COURSE, SUPPORTS DIFFERENT
NATIONAL PATHS TO SOCIALISM, AS WELL AS THE "ANTI-
DOGMATIST" LINE TAKEN BY MARCHAIS AT THE PCF
CONGRESS. THE YUGOSLAVS DO NOT, HOWEVER, APPROVE
OF MARCHAIS' RENUNCIATION OF THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE
PROLETARIAT AND BELIEVE THE PCF LEADER HAS MADE A
TACTICAL MISTAKE ON THIS ISSUE. IN THE YUGOSLAV
VIEW, MARCHAIS HAS BROUGHT THE DEBATE BETWEEN THE
"AUTONOMOUS" PARTIES AND MOSCOW BACK TO THE IDEO-
LOGICAL FRONT, AN AREA WHICH THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE TRIED
TO AVOID IN THEIR DEBATES WITH THE SOVIETS. MOREOVER,
THE YUGOSLAVS BELIEVE THAT MARCHAIS' RENUNCIATION OF
THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT WAS DONE TOO
HASTILY BECAUSE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT IS
A NECESSARY POLITICAL TOOL FOR CPS ONCE THEY ARE IN
POWER. STREATOR

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